

crippled children services and in Medicaid, in excess of one hundred million dollars we are spending to remediate congenital anomalies. So, I can guarantee you, as I told Senator Schmit, this bill may only touch a hundred pregnancies a year, a hundred women in a hundred high-risk pregnancies, but if out of those one hundred pregnancies and those hundred women we can avert 25 catastrophies in a year's time, we will have quadrupled, quintupled our little \$120,000 investment. If we can through our little \$10,000 investment in an education program, incidentally here is an education chart from New York State, I wanted some demonstrative evidence. You know the Department of Health in New York State has these posters all over clinics and hospitals, "Take Care of Your Baby From The Start". It talks about what a parent should do in those early days, weeks and months of parenting and, yes, women read this. Women read this, pregnant women read this and the mothers of new borns read this and they begin to make those adjustments, they begin to provide that kind of nurturing for a child that has to be provided because it doesn't know any better. Do you think a 16 year old girl who gives birth to a child really knows what it is that child is going to need? What it is that child is going to need to thrive? I submit that that 16 year old really does not know. Now her mother may know or her father may know or some surrogate parents may know, but she really doesn't know. We have 16 year olds and 17 year olds and 18 year olds giving birth in Nebraska, and caring for our future, and caring for our future. So if a little \$10,000 we put into our education program again has the...if it reaches the lives of a handful of the women in our state, and the fathers in our state, so that they will pick those children up, they will nurture those children, they will nourish those children, they will love those children, if it just reaches them and those children end up thriving, what a great advantage those children now have and what a good thing you and I have done. It is a good thing. Again, if we take a little bit of our money and we supplement the declining Women's-Infants Care funding, if we supplement that, that will reach a few more households. A few more nutritional packages will be provided to pregnant women and to lactating women and when that is done we are likely to have healthier infants in our